

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions and listings of claims in this application:

1.(Previously Presented) A method for decoding a menu data segment, the method comprising the steps of

detecting, within the menu data segment, data corresponding to a plurality of menu items belonging to a menu page;

extracting from the menu data segment for each menu item of the plurality of menu items at least first data defining whether the menu item is selectable and second data defining whether the menu item has graphic representation data associated;

decoding data corresponding to first menu items to selectable display data, wherein the first menu items are menu buttons and have graphic representation data associated;

decoding data corresponding to second menu items to non-selectable and visible display data, wherein the second menu items have graphic representation data associated; and

decoding data corresponding to third menu items to selectable and invisible menu elements, wherein the third menu items have no associated graphic representation data, and wherein the third menu items are menu buttons that are automatically activated upon selection.

2.(Previously Presented) Apparatus for decoding a menu data segment, the apparatus comprising:

means for detecting, within the menu data segment, data corresponding to a plurality of menu items belonging to a menu page;

means for extracting from the menu data segment for each menu item of the plurality of menu items at least first data defining whether the menu item is selectable and second data defining whether the menu item has graphic representation data associated;

means for decoding data corresponding to first menu items to selectable display data, wherein the first menu items are menu buttons and have graphic representation data associated;

means for decoding data corresponding to second menu items to non-selectable display data, wherein the second menu items have graphic representation data associated; and

means for decoding data corresponding to third menu items to selectable and invisible menu elements, wherein the third menu items have no associated graphic representation data, and wherein the third menu items are menu buttons that are automatically activated upon selection.

3.(Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the menu data segment defines a multi-page menu, and wherein the first menu items are displayed for at least one, but not for every menu page of the multi-page menu, and the menu data segment includes data defining for each menu page which of the first menu buttons is to be rendered visible on the display.

4.(Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein a first menu item may have one of the states unselected, selected or activated, and wherein the second data extracted for each of the menu items enables defining that a menu item has graphic representation data for one of said states associated and stored within said menu data segment, but not for another of said states.

5.(Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein sound data are associated to a state of a menu button, the sound data and the menu data segment being read from ~~the~~ a single storage medium and being played back upon entry of the button into the associated state.

6.(Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the menu controls playback of audio-visual data, the audio-visual data stored on ~~the~~ a single storage medium as with the menu data segment.

7.(Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein at least the data corresponding to said first and second menu items have the same data structure within said menu page.

8.(Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second menu items have associated display positions comprising a horizontal address and a vertical address and need not overlap.

9.(Previously Presented) Apparatus for decoding according to claim 2, wherein the menu data segment defines a multi-page menu and the first menu buttons are displayed for at least one, but not every page of the multi-page menu, and wherein the menu data segment includes data defining for each menu page which of the first menu buttons is to be rendered visible on the display.

10.(Previously Presented) Apparatus for decoding according to claim 2, wherein a menu button may have one of the states unselected, selected or activated, further comprising means for determining, based on the second data, for each of the states of a menu button individually whether or not it has graphic representation data associated.

11.(Previously Presented) Apparatus for decoding according to claim 2, further comprising means for decoding for the selectable display data of the first menu items associated display positions, and

means for decoding for the non-selectable display data of the second menu items associated display positions, wherein the display positions of the first and second menu items comprise a horizontal address and a vertical address and the first and second menu items need not overlap.

12.(Previously Presented) Apparatus for decoding according to claim 2, wherein sound data are associated to a state of a menu button, the sound data being played back upon entry of

the button into the associated state and being read from the same storage medium as the menu data segment.

13.(new) Apparatus for decoding according to claim 2, wherein the graphic representation data associated to the second menu items are individual for each of the second menu items.

14.(new) Method according to claim 1, wherein the graphic representation data associated to the second menu items are individual for each of the second menu items.